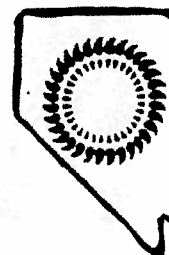


NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY

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STATE PUBLICATIONS

JUNE 1994
VOLUME 13, NUMBER 6

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SYNOPSIS

Hallelujah! At long last the 122 degree all-time Nevada State high temperature, set at several locations on many occasions in June and July, has been surpassed and not just barely! On June 28th Laughlin reached 124 degrees at the official Clark County Fire Department location, bubbling up to 125 degrees on the 29th, then falling back to 123 degrees on the 30th. Early morning temperatures on those days were in the mid 80's. During the 9 day period from June 24th to July 2nd the maximum never fell below 120 degrees, averaging a blistering 122 degrees. Nearby, Cottonwood Cove reached 124, with 122 at Overton, and 121's at Callville Bay and Echo Bay.

At Death Valley N. P. the mercury reached 128, after an early morning low of only 101 degrees! It was also 128 degrees there in July 1972. The all-time U.S. high of 134 degrees, recorded at Death Valley in July 1913, is suspect as there has not been a reading above 128 degrees since then. However, the record is still accepted, for lack of knowledge about atmospheric conditions, instruments and observer techniques 80 years ago.

Statewide June was also unusually dry, with only a few showers and thunderstorms in the extreme north and northeast early in the month. Most of Nevada's climate observers reported no precipitation this month. Water Year precipitation is near normal at most locations except for Far Western and Southern Nevada, where it is far below normal. In the Far West 7 of the last 8 years have had below normal precipitation for the driest conditions in over 100 years, as the drought continues unabated. Wild vegetation and streamflow conditions are at/near record dry levels, with no end in sight.

TEMPERATURE

Departures from average temperatures were above normal over most of the State, being in the +3-5 degree range at many locations. This is the fourth month in a row with warm temperatures. Only parts of the Northeast were a little below long-term normals.

In addition to the new all-time Statewide high temperature at Laughlin other locations also set or neared records for June. Overton reached 122 tying the June and annual high with records

since 1906. It was the hottest June in Las Vegas since NWS records began at the airport in 1937, (+6 degrees) although the June maximum of 116 degrees set in 1940 still stands, as does the 117 degrees in July of 1942, and the pre-airport record of 118 degrees recorded by Charles "Pop" Squires, Las Vegas long-time weather observer (1908-1957), in July 1931. Three straight days of 115 degrees at McCarren Intl. Ap. this year neared the 3 day record of 117, 115, and 118 of July 24-26th, 1931. At Caliente the 107 beat the June record set in the very hot 1954 heat spell. The record is 85 years long. It was also 108 degrees at Searchlight, just two degrees shy of the June 1954 record, with 80 years of data logging. Desert NWR at Corn Creek tied the June record of 112 degrees set in 1970, with data first collected 50 years ago.

On the cool side, Charleston dropped to 14 degrees on the 14th, with several mornings below 20 degrees, while nearby Boies Ranch had 21. Truckee, Ca. dropped to 15 the same day. Charleston had another "sweater-shorts" day with an AM low of 22 and a PM high of 88 degrees on the 30th. Grabbing another such day out of history, Battle Mountain had a low of 31 and a high of 100 on July 3rd, 1909, with 11 to 85 degrees at Charleston on September 19, 1962, and 3-75 on October 19, 1967 at the same place.

PRECIPITATION & EVAPORATION

Most of Nevada had no precipitation this month. Only a few spots in the Northeast and extreme North recorded rain early in the month. Ruth had .90", Vya .58", Cedarville, Ca. .53", Jackpot .38" and McGill .31". All others that recorded any rain had less than 1/4 inch.

Water deficits built up as evaporation was well above normal for June. For example, Overton had 19.25" of pan evaporation and a normal of only 14.69", Boulder City logged 23.29", a new June record in 60 years of record, and 7" above normal. Ruby Lake had 12.04; and a normal of 8.98", with Fallon at 10.32" and a normal of 9.20". Honey Lake had 10.15", 2" over normal. In addition, Minden had 10.57", Shoshone 9.69", and Pahranaagat NWR 12.35".

SUNSHINE & WIND

The lack of storms and cloudiness led to an unusually sunny month with 85-95% of the possible sun hours Statewide, with the highest total in the South.

It was also a windier than normal month. This coupled with high temperatures and lots of sun, led to unusual drying of range lands, especially in the West and South.

NOTE 1: The name of one of Nevada's most conscientious weather observers, Audrey Andre of North Spring Valley, White Pine County, was accidentally left off last month's salute to the State's weather observers. Audrey not only does not miss a day of logging temperatures and precipitation (when there is any!), but when she and her husband moved up the road, she also moved the weather station and repaired and painted the thermometer shelter!

NOTE 2: Welcome to new observer Dave Burke, of the Denton Rawhide Mine in Mineral County.

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